interests by under cutting, especially when their fleets are augmented and may have spare capacity to offer; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRISHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Air India has not finalised any decision for acquiring new aircraft. However an in-House Expert Committee has been constituted to develop Air India's Fleet Plans for the next five years. The Expert Committee is also required to determine the new generic aircraft type in terms of required capacity and range and the number of aircaft units to be inducted for fleet replacement and fleet expansion. The Board of Directors of Indian Airlines had approved a proposal for acquisition of 43 aircraft at a net project cost of Rs. 10,089 crores. A Project Report has been submitted to the Government for approval. Subject to the Government approval, these aircraft would be inducted in a phased manner and deployed on the existing domestic/international network of Indian Airlines.

(c) and (d) There were various mechanisms already in place to bring about co-ordination between the two airlines. The representatives of the two airlines meet each other from time to time to share market data and follow a co-ordinated approach to avoid unhealthy market practices.

Cheating of foreign passengers by touts at IGI Airport

t610. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of cheating and misleading the passengers particularly foreign passengers by the touts are increasing constantly at India Gandhi International Airport and Palam Airport;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take action against these touts;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when action is likely to be taken; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPADYESSO NAIK): (a) to (d)The instances of cheating and misguiding by the touts whenever reported are refered to Police for action since touting is a criminal offence covered under the jurisdiction of local police. The issue is also discussed in the Airport Facilitation Committee Meetings and Airport Security Committee Meetings headed by Airport Director. Whenever, there are reports of touting, Stringent action to curb this activity is taken.

Upgradation of Jaipur Airport

611. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect Sanganer Airport (Jaipur) with some International flights and upgrade the Jaipur Airport to that of International standard; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPADYESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Sanganer Airport (Jaipur) has already been connected with Dubai by Indian Airlines International flight, and Jaipur Airport has already been developed as a Model Airport and is being upgraded to international standards. Further, the works of extension and resurfacing of runway, resurfacing of taxiway, expansion and resurfacing of apron, construction of an Isolation Bay etc. are in progress and are likely to be completed by April 2003.The work of construction of New Technical block cum ControlTower and new first Station is also likely to be completed shortly.

Touts at Airports

†612. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Namon Ki takhtiyan lekar khare rahte hain delal" which appeared in Dainik Jagaran dated 6th June, 2002;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.